



**Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, March 10, 2005

For Information Contact Public Affairs

SANDY RAYNOR

Telephone: (602) 514-7625

Cell: (602) 525-2681

FLAGSTAFF FRAUD DEFENDANTS SENTENCED

PHOENIX –The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, announced that on February 24 and 25, 2005, Jay J. Wigdore, 46, Russ Lynn Alexander, 36, and Dale Jon Bruemmer, 44, all of Phoenix; Steven Joseph Fiorentino, 50, of Peoria, Ariz.; James Edward Stephenson, 58, of Cottonwood, Ariz.; Robert Lewis Canfield, 45, of Camp Verde, Ariz.; Leonard Peter Cardone, 34, of Anthem, Ariz.; Brandon M. Fiorentino, 25, of Glendale, Ariz.; Jeff Blake Heimann, 42, of Yuma, Ariz.; Phil Joseph Macaluso, 57, of Hemet, Calif.; Clayton Scott Adams, 46, of Kamuela, Hawaii; Jason M. Hibbard, 30, of St. Charles, Mo.; and Christopher Lee Stromberg, 43, of Concord, N.H., were each sentenced by U.S. District Judge Mary J. Murguia in Phoenix for their involvement in the Joe Florek Volkswagon Auto Dealership fraud scheme.

On January 16, 2003, a federal grand jury in Phoenix returned a 38-count indictment against the 13 defendants. The indictment alleged that from January 1998 through October 2000 the defendants engaged in a scheme to defraud 15 lending institutions, two automotive extended warranty companies, wholesale auto auctions and the public, while they were employed at Joe Florek Volkswagon in Flagstaff, Ariz. and Gray Mountain Auto Connection in Gray Mountain, Ariz. It was alleged in the indictment that the defendants specifically targeted Native Americans throughout Northern Arizona.

Not all the defendants were named on all counts. All 13 defendants pleaded guilty to one or more felony counts and received the following sentences:

-MORE-

Defendant	Terms of Sentence	Date of Sentencing
Jay J. Wigdore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 57 months in prison • Three years supervised release • \$1.6 million in restitution 	February 25, 2005
Steven Joseph Fiorentino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 months in prison • Three years supervised release • \$1.6 million in restitution 	February 25, 2005
James Edward Stephenson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three months in prison • Three months home detention with electronic surveillance • Three years supervised release • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of supervised release • \$48,347 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$3,748 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 25, 2005
Clayton Scott Adams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three months in prison • Three months home detention with electronic surveillance • Three years supervised release • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of supervised release • \$107,497 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$24,470 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 24, 2005
Russ Lynn Alexander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five years probation • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of probation • \$22,940 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$3,147 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 24, 2005

-MORE-

Dale Jon Bruemmer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five years probation • 90 days home detention with electronic surveillance • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of probation • \$61,156 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$5,375 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 24, 2005
Robert Lewis Canfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three months in prison • Three months home detention with electronic surveillance • Three years supervised release • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of supervised release • \$50,463 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$12,028 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 25, 2005
Leonard Peter Cardone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six months in prison • Six months home detention with electronic surveillance • Three years supervised release • \$48,676 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$10,259 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 24, 2005
Brandon M. Fiorentino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five months in prison • Five months home detention with electronic surveillance • Three years supervised release • \$30,301 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$4,886 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 25, 2005
Jason M. Hibbard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five years probation • 30 days in jail • 60 days home detention with electronic surveillance • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of probation • \$50,594 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$11,908 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 24, 2005

Jeff Blake Heimann	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five years probation • Three months home detention with electronic surveillance • \$100 per month to DNA Legal Services during period of probation • \$41,084 in restitution to Arcadia Financial 	February 24, 2005
Phil Joseph Macaluso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four months in prison • Four months home detention with electronic surveillance • Three years supervised release • \$32,274 in restitution to Arcadia Financial 	February 24, 2005
Christopher Lee Stromberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 months in prison • Three years supervised release • \$62,751 in restitution to Arcadia Financial • \$9,427 in restitution to Household Automotive 	February 24, 2005

The investigation in this case was conducted by Flagstaff, Ariz. and Phoenix FBI offices with the assistance of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, Flagstaff Police Department, Coconino County Sheriff's Department, Arizona Department of Motor Vehicles and the Arizona Department of Liquor and License Controls.

The prosecution was handled by Mark E. Aspey, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Flagstaff, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-03-49-PCT-MHM
RELEASE NUMBER: 2005-036

###